

Remarks

The application to which the Preliminary Amendment refers is a divisional under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). The parent case is 09/747,398, which contained claims 1- 38. In a First Office Action dated January 4, 2002, restriction was required between the species of Figures 4-8, Figures 9-13, and Figures 15-18, and applicants were asked to list all claims readable on the elected group. Applicants elected the species of Figures 9-13, identified claims 14-29 as readable on those claims, and withdrew claims 1-13 and 30-38. In a second Office Action dated May 16, 2002, further restriction was required between the species of Figures 9 and 10, the species of Figure 11, the species of Figure 12, the species of Figure 13, and the species of Figure 19. Applicants elected the species of Figures 9 and 10, identified claims 14, 16, 17, and 18, and withdrew claims 15 and 19-29. Examination of the application was reassigned to Art Unit 3753 and Examiner John A. Rivell. During subsequent examination, applicants cancelled claim 18 and added new claims 39-43. Claims 14, 16, 17 and 39-43 have been allowed. A copy of the Notice of Allowability is enclosed. This divisional application is being filed prior to payment of the issue fee in the parent case. Copies of the original specification, drawings and Declaration are attached. During prosecution of the parent application, several amendments to the specification and drawings were proposed and entered to correct typographical and other obvious errors in the application. These changes did not add any new matter and are presented below as amendments to the original specification.

Applicants have amended the two paragraphs starting on page 20, line 25, and ending on page 22, line 6. These amendments are made solely to more particularly and distinctly point out the subject matter Applicants regard as their invention. The changes are made to clarify the shape of the resilient insert, 36, (and its positioning relevant to the closure member contact surface, 32, and the valve body, 30), as already shown in Figures 9 and 10.

Applicants elect to prosecute the species of Figure 11. Please cancel claims 1-38 and enter new claims 39-43. No new matter has been added, the inventorship remains the same, and each claim is fully and unambiguously supported in the original specification.

Applicants have amended the reference numbers and arrows in Figures 9 and 10 to more particularly and distinctly point out the subject matter which Applicant's regard as their invention. The specification has also been amended, consistent with these changes.

Respectfully submitted,



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